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Floodplain Management Task Force - Moving Forward!

By Christy Askew

The Floodplain Management Task Force was formed in January 2005 with a charge to evaluate current policy and practice of regulating development within the floodplain and to make recommendations of any needed change in policy and practice to the Sedgwick County Board of Commissioners and Wichita City Council. The Task Force researched information regarding watersheds, flood zones, and policies and practices of other communities with similar concerns, including presentations from the Denver Urban Drainage and Flood Control District, the Johnson County Stormwa-

ter Management Program, and the Andale Chamber of Commerce's proposed watershed district. In addition, each city in Sedgwick County was surveyed to obtain information regarding their existing policies and willingness to adopt a countywide policy.

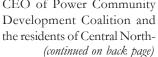
After deliberation, the Task Force identified, discussed and developed seven initiatives with associated charge statements and action items, and assigned representatives to take the lead responsibility in developing an implementation plan for each action item. The seven initiatives include activities to address public awareness, flood-prone property, uniform standards, a governmental framework, basin studies, the Community Rating System Program, and flood conveyance channels. Estimated timeframes to begin and complete each initiative and action item, participating partners, and potential funding sources were also identified.

In November, presentations were made to the Wichita City Council, the Board of County Commissioners, the Advanced Plans Committee, and the Metropolitan Area Planning Commission (MAPC). The Task Force is recommending that the City Manager and the County Manager work together to move the Report's recommendations forward. Presentations of the final report will be made to the Wichita City Council on December 13th and to the Sedgwick County Board of Commissioners on

December 21. You may review the report at the following website: www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/ Planning/. If you have any questions pertaining to the final report, please call John Schlegel or Christy Askew at 316-268-4421.



After years of hard work, James Arbertha, the President and CEO of Power Community



Wichita's Creating An International Marketplace!

By Dave Barber AICP

A goal of the recently adopted 21st Street North Corridor Revitalization Plan is the creation of an International Marketplace District centered at 21st Street North and Market Street. Focused around a proposed indoor Mercado (public market) facility, this District would offer distinctive dining, shopping and entertainment experiences particular to the cultures represented in the area, as a means of attracting local and regional shoppers and promoting economic renewal of the area. The International Marketplace District will initially encompass the retail segments of the 21st Street North corridor from Broadway to the Thai Bin Asian Market located at Somerset, and the Broadway Street retail corridor from 22nd Street North to 20th Street North.

The City of Wichita is contracting the services of the Greteman Group to develop a strategic marketing, public relations and communications plan that will enable the International Marketplace District to eventually become the premier destination for ethnic and international retail business, services and cultural entertainment / artistic events in the Wichita region.

As part of this initiative, an architectural design approach and site concept plan will also be developed for proposed public and private improvements in the International Marketplace District (including streetscape enhancements, landscaping treatments, gateway design, way-finding signage, lighting, parking). These design concepts and approaches are intended to reflect, support and implement the marketing, branding and public relations strategy.

For more information on this initiative, contact Dave Barber at 268-4421.

Will the Dunbar Theater be Redeveloped?

By Scott Knebel

The McAdams Neighborhood Revitalization Plan recommends conducting a feasibility study for a community-

based, visual and performing arts center at the Dunbar Theater, located at 1007 N. Cleveland. The Dunbar Theater was constructed in 1941 and functioned for many years as the only movie theater available for the African-American community in Wichita. The theater has remained vacant for decades, and there have been several attempts in the past to redevelop the theater. Redeveloping the Dunbar Theater is an important component of revitalization in the McAdams neighborhood and hopefully would spur additional redevelopment near the intersection of 9th and Cleveland, formerly a robust commercial area in the African-American community. The Planning Department is currently evaluating proposals from consultants to study the feasibility of redeveloping the theater. The feasibility study is anticipated to be completed in the Summer of 2006. For more information please call Scott Knebel at 268-4421.



From the Director

On November 9, 2005, the Sedgwick County Board of County Commissioners unanimously approved the selection of the 'East Site' in downtown Wichita as the site of the new Sedgwick

County arena. The arena will serve as a regional-scale events venue for south central Kansas, and represents the largest single investment the County has made to date in a public project. With proper planning, foresight and community involvement, this new arena will serve as an important catalyst for future redevelopment efforts in downtown Wichita. Public involvement has been an important component of the County's arena site selection process, and it will also be an important component of the City's Arena Neighborhood Redevelopment Plan process. Over the next six months, the City of Wichita will be actively engaged in the development of the Arena Neighborhood Redevelopment Plan. Planning now for the future is the key to maximizing the redevelopment opportunities associated with the County's investment in this arena facility.



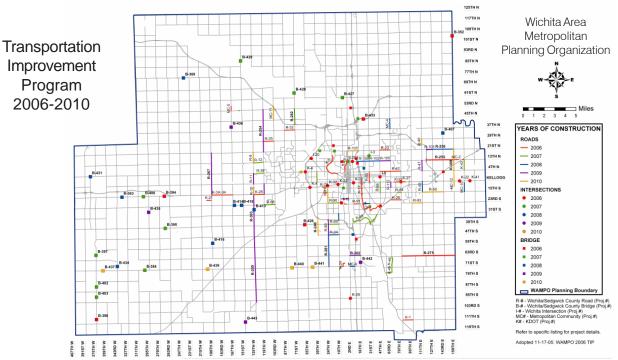
WAMPO Updates

By Christy Askew

For more information regarding the Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization contact Nancy Harvieux at 268-4391

2006-2010 Transportation Improvement Program Approved!

The Wichita Area Metropolitan Planning Organization approved the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) on November 17, 2005. The TIP is a list of federally funded, regionally significant, transportation improvements that will be implemented over the next five years. The map below is being displayed to demonstrate the geographic distribution of TIP projects. A series of enlarged maps and the approved 2006 TIP document may be viewed through the following website: www.wichita.gov/CityOffices/Planning/Transportation/2006-2010_TIP.htm or at the Wichita City Hall, 10th Floor.



2006 Unified Planning Work Program Approved!

The 2006 Unified Planning Work Program (UPWP) was approved on December 8, 2005! The purpose of the UPWP is to identify projects, programs, and initiatives for the next fiscal year. The UPWP is required in order to continue receiving and expending federal transportation planning funds for Transportation Division operating expenses, including salaries, transportation studies, contracts, commodities and capital outlays.

Thirteen TE Applications Submitted to KDOT!

A total of 13 Transportation Enhancement (TE) Program applications were submitted by each applicant to the Kansas Department of Transportation on November 7, 2005. These projects include a range of pedestrian and bike improvements, scenic improvements, and historic transportation improvement projects. The applications will be reviewed by KDOT on a competitive basis, and it is anticipated that the funds will be awarded in late Spring or early Summer of 2006.

TE Applicant	<u>Project</u>	TE Funding Category
City of Cheney	Cheney Recreational Facility Ped. & Bike Link	Pedestrian/Bicycle
City of Colwich	1st Street Pedestrian Bicycle Path Project	Pedestrian/Bicycle
City of Derby	Derby Bike Path	Pedestrian/Bicycle & Scenic/Environmental
City of Haysville	Main Streetscape	Scenic/Environmental
City of Mulvane	Sports Complex Pedest <mark>r</mark> ian & B <mark>ike Path </mark>	Pedestrian/Bicycle & Scenic/Environmental
City of Valley Center	Valley Center Linear Trail System	Pedestrian/Bicycle
City of Wichita	Belmont Arches	Historic
City of Wichita	Brooks / Buckner Bike Trail	Pedestrian/Bicycle
City of Wichita	Bluff Street Rest Station	Scenic/Environmental
City of Wichita	Delano Pedestrian and Bike Path	Pedestrian/Bicycle
City of Wichita	I-135/K-96 Trail Connection	Pedestrian/Bicycle
City of Wichita	Little Arkansas/Mead Multi Use Path	Pedestrian/Bicycle
City of Wichita	Redbud Trail/BNSF Cor <mark>ridor</mark>	Pedestrian/Bicycle

Derby's Planning News!

By Christy Askew

The City of Derby is making progress, for the City recently amended its sign ordinance and is now in the process of updating its comprehensive plan. Last Spring, the City of Derby hired Bucher, Willis,

and Ratliff Corporation (BWR), a planning and engineering firm of Kansas City, Missouri, to assist the

City in updating its Comprehensive Plan. The updated Plan will incorporate recent trends, as well as, components of the recently completed McConnell Air Force Base Joint Land Use Study—a Derby, Wichita, and Sedgwick County study that evaluates land use and develop-

ment trends on property adjacent to the McConnell

Air Force Base. The Derby Planning Commission and the Derby City Council recently reviewed the first draft of the Comprehensive Plan Update and submitted recommendations back to BWR. The City expects to complete and adopt its Comprehensive Plan Update by January or February of 2006!

Derby's next move may include further consideration of the development of architectural design guidelines for residential development. Please contact Don Losew at 788-1519, if you have any questions pertaining to Derby's Planning News.

Groundbreaking (from page 1)

east Wichita were joined by Rep. Todd Tiahrt, Mayor Carlos Mayans, City Councilman Carl Brewer, the Save-A Lot franchise owner Ron Rhodes and others to celebrate the start-of-construction of a new Save-A-Lot Grocery Store.

The development of the 13,000 square foot grocery store at 13th and Grove is an investment of more than 2 million dollars in the Central Northeast Area and has been funded through a variety of sources: Commercial Federal Bank, City of Wichita Biz Loan Program, City Tax Increment Financing, and Community Block Grant funding. In addition, Rep. Todd Tiahrt secured a HUD Economic Development Initiative Grant for \$750,000!

Community stakeholders identified the need for a new grocery store in the Central Northeast Area Plan Update 20/20 Vision. The new grocery store will help to realize the vision and greatly improve the quality of life for the more than 17,000 residents that currently have to travel several miles to purchase basic necessities.

Save-A-Lot Grocery anticipates that the store will be open for business by July 2006.



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